

- Detroit needs more flowers growing during spring and summer. Streets need to be cleaned at least once a month. I am embarrassed to have a reunion here in Detroit, with its vacant buildings and dirty streets and freeways littered with trash. I have lived in this area for 50 years and I have seen the beautiful Detroit. I can't volunteer for anything because of illness. I wish I could. Linwood Street looks a mess. I know the politicians see the same thing that I see.
- Too many houses and buildings are left standing after a fire, which results in a high rate of vandalism. Buildings should be razed immediately and not left standing for years.
- I love living in Detroit, it's far less expensive than in the suburbs. I do have some issues that I would like resolved, such as, repairing curbs and streets and the trimming of trees.
- 1. Potholes are a big problem 2. Next time layout the survey form so that I can omit questions regarding services I have not used. 3. We need better lighting on major streets, especially in the downtown area.
- Clean up this filthy City. Hire day laborers to clean the streets and pick up trash in the neighborhoods. Tear down or board up the vacant houses. Clean up the City.
- The main problem I have with this City is two-fold. First, you're not really safe in this City from crime. Secondly, there is a major problem with the fact that as soon as you leave this City, you can really tell that you left because every other city around Detroit takes care of things such as cutting the grass, etc. That's sad, because we're bigger than any other city around here.
- I wish the City of Detroit would work to trim the branches of the trees that block the streetlights. Please stop blocking side streets when plowing snow from main streets. I wish the City would provide a service to help homeowners remove junk cars without having to pay for a tow truck.
- I have a vacant lot next door to my house and I have been complaining about it for two years. Due to a dirt hill on the lot, you can't see someone or something if it emerges from behind the hill of dirt. It's a very dangerous situation. Living like this should not be acceptable, and I strongly wish I could get some help with this dangerous dirty lot and alley.
- There is a house next door to me that needs to be torn down. Drug users were using this house, which has no doors or windows. It is completely trashed and no one lives in this house. It's a fire hazard to my home. Also, stray animals live in it. Please investigate. It has been reported several times but nothing has been done.
- I am an advanced master gardener, therefore, I am active in the Belle Isle Botanical Society, Detroit Garden Center, and the Master Gardener Association. Demolition and maintenance of City-owned vacant and dangerous houses and buildings is horrible. There is no excuse for this situation. I have been a homeowner in this City in excess of 45 years and the level and variety of services provided by the City during this time span has fallen.
- I didn't answer some questions because it takes neighborhoods to keep up a city. We have all types of people that don't do their duty. Some questions asked, I never had problems with, so that's my reason for not answering. This City's care of vacant lots is very poor.

- When the City paved one side of our street, it took them a month and a half to finish the other side of the street. Some of the paving material got into the drain and our street flooded. When the City repairs water mains, it messes up the streets and driveways, and workers never return to fix them. When the snow is plowed, it is put at the end of the street, so you can't see to get on or off the street. When the lights go out, they stay that way for months. When the City fixes the streets or paves them, the water gates and manhole covers are exposed for months.
- I have a problem with garbage pickup. Sometimes workers drop garbage and don't clean up behind themselves. Bulk removal is the worst. I've seen where trash doesn't get picked up on the proposed day, or where some trash is picked up and some is not, or where workers do not clean up what they drop and do not seem to care.
- In regard to bus service, I did ride the Detroit bus for years to and from work, until I bought a car. I love Detroit, however, its present state saddens me. Drugs, abandoned houses, vacant lots, etc. have caused our hard trying families to move out. It's hard staying here.
- As a City of Detroit employee (DOT bus driver), I see a great need for all City services to be improved. I am tired of looking at dirty streets, dead animals, and abandoned buildings throughout the City. I would like to see transit police on buses day and night. Several DOT buses are roach infested and dirty. Several City streets are in need of repair desperately, especially Fort and Michigan Avenue.
- Alleys in the area have tall trees and weeds. The City needs to remove the trees and then turn the alleys over to homeowners. Residential traffic is too fast and music from cars is too loud. We need laws about cell phones. Why talk and drive?
- Trash pickup is always timely. Neighborhood security is compromised because of wild dogs.
- My church has a good outreach program. Numerous indoor and outdoor tent fairs have police, health, and other City services participating. This church is located in the Brightmoor area, where one can see both blighted homes and cleared lots. Perhaps, Detroit isn't the cleanest city, however, it isn't the worst. I have traveled north, east, south and west. I've seen worse during the past 12 months, and I've seen numerous improvements in Detroit.
- Give people tickets for not keeping up their houses and for putting rubbish out three weeks ahead of time. Illegal parking and abandoned cars makes the streets look bad.
- The weekly garbage pickup is the best this City has had in the last 60 years.
- I recognize that the City's ability to provide services is based on the City's ability to fund these services. In a City with many older and poorer residents, the lack of community support and investment by most local businesses impacts the quality of City services and revenue. My experiences with the Police Department have been positive, and weekly and bulk trash pickup has been timely.

- We can't trust the people that run the City. We think someone or a few get paid-off, while we're fighting in the "Salt Mine", because they ignore the neighborhoods. Now, Sanders Street is one thing they didn't finish. Mayor Archer said the City cleans and cuts vacant lots when the grass is six inches high. What a joke. Send him to Oakwood Heights, near Oakwood and Fort Streets. If you want to know what's going on, watch the FOX channel from 2:00 to 5:30 a.m.
- Please repair streets in the local neighborhoods. Renovate all City parks. Provide ways for investors to purchase abandoned houses and buildings without the politics. Provide homeowners grants to repair the homes they reside in. Provide tax breaks for new small business owners. Provide stiff fines for people who want to litter for no good reason.
- Vacant buildings in all neighborhoods should be demolished as soon as possible. They are eyesores and dangerous to everyone.
- The City of Detroit needs to fix the potholes in the streets along with tearing down the abandoned houses.
- I would like to see more protection on our streets, so that maybe we could safely walk at night. Also, I would like to see the abandoned houses torn down. These are the times though, and things will never be the same until Jesus comes back! God bless you.
- The streets should be cleaned after bulk pickup, not before, and the City should have somebody cleaning up the mess that the machine cannot pick up. The grass needs to be cut lower, and more often than twice in the summer, and I think they could do a much neater job.
- The bulk garbage pickup day is a joke. People place garbage on the curb too far in advance and this leads to the garbage being scattered all over the block. The sanitation workers are very sloppy and leave garbage all over the streets. Bulk garbage day should be at least twice a month or every week with the regular garbage. The police in my area really don't seem to care about traffic laws and they are very rude.
- Jeffries School was torn down in our neighborhood. Now we have wild grass, broken glass, trash, and the lot remaining is vacant. This lot is big enough to build houses and make our neighborhood look better. We still have a lot of abandoned houses. Thanks for improving our street on Liebold, it is much better to drive on now.
- Our residential streets need repair. All corner curbs should be wheelchair accessible. All streets should have curbs. There should be police walking the beat or mounted police in the neighborhood. The more visible police are, the less likelihood of crime or fear by residents. This will enable residents to enjoy the City's recreation facilities.
- Speaking from a home owner's perspective: There are many beautiful areas and homes in Detroit, however, much needs to be done in the Northwest, the New Center area, and especially the Grand River to Woodward innercity circle. Even some sections of Palmer Woods need attention. Commercial development, and acquisition schemes, and waterfront planning need stronger concerted leadership and scrutiny. If Cleveland could do it, we certainly have the resources and vision to do it. I applaud Kmart for its commitment.
- Neighborhood sidewalks and streets need immediate repairs. Sidewalks and streets have not been repaired for many years.

- I am detached from all services that the City of Detroit offers except what is necessary, such as garbage collection.
- I remember true street cleaning, after school activities, alley pickup of garbage, cleaning of alleys, activities at neighborhood playgrounds supervised by the Recreation Department, and seeing police officers walking and driving on my block and near my block. Taxes haven't gone down but the above mentioned services have either stopped or slowed down. I think there are programs and grants available to City residents that they don't know about. With neighborhood City halls, mini police stations, and the Ombudsman's Office you'd think folks would be more aware of these things. However, everyone does not have cable. Check out the vacant house at 1665 Buena Vista with its garage leaning and the litter in the rear of 1651/1653 Buena Vista. Both of these conditions have existed for over two years. The DPW is in a sad state.
- Cars on the streets and driveways that are not running are a problem. When you cannot park near your home, it causes a problem. When calling about this problem, I was referred to as many as four or five telephone numbers.
- Carpenter and Gallagher Streets always have garbage on them, which blocks the view of traffic.
- We need more streetlighting on the streets of Detroit, especially in the neighborhoods. The snowplow broke the cement at the end of my driveway. I would like to volunteer for a lot of things on the questionnaire, however, I am a disabled senior citizen.
- I think that the neighborhood I live in is in a very depressed state. With the abandoned and burned out houses, and the debris left on lots, it's very hard for the average person to have respect for the area in which they live. I live on a dead-end street and there are never any passing police cars that patrol by my home. Streetlights are rarely lit. I keep my yard and home nice but it is sad to see all of the debris I have to pass by before getting to my home. Detroit needs politicians that care. Last year, after that severe snowstorm, my street was never scraped. A neighbor scraped our street or we wouldn't have been able to get out. The Elizabeth Howell Park near my home has its grass cut three times a year and that's it. The children have no swings and poorly kept slides.
- The City needs to enforce the law against putting bulk trash on the street weeks before pickup day.
- It takes the police, or whoever, too long to clear cars parked on residential streets. Cars stay up to a month after calls. Eliminate neighborhood car repairs in streets which blight the neighborhood.
- Some of the residents on the I-75 service drive going south between east State Fair and Emery Street need to be ticketed, because rubbish has been on the service drive for weeks. This causes the neighborhood to look bad. Bulk rubbish pickup is every third Tuesday in my area. Thank you, a concerned citizen.
- I would like to see Detroit's parks, streets, and business areas cleaned up. The freeway exits coming from the highways are always dirty. It would be nice to give thriving business areas (e.g., Livernois between Six Mile and Eight Mile) street appeal, such as painting curbs and streetlight poles. Also, put more trash cans out and enforce businesses to keep their storefronts neat and clean and provide nicer landscaping.

- Here are comments regarding City operations: Streetlights are off for weeks. Cut the grass and don't chop it. Trash is never picked up on the assigned trash day, instead it's picked up on weekends and not Thursday, as scheduled.
- The City's response for tearing down vacant houses is very poor. I think this matter should be addressed more seriously. Someone might get hurt in one of these houses, and the houses around it are susceptible to fire.
- I am very dissatisfied with dumping of trash, furniture, etc. in the alley behind my house. I have to go out there and retrieve all the items and put them out front for bulk trash day. This is a big inconvenience. I think that the alley needs to be closed. There is no thru traffic, so what's the purpose of not closing it? Also, on numerous occasions the bulk pickups are a week behind. The house across the street was a rental and when the tenants were evicted, many items were just put on the lawn. I had to go clean it up myself because the neighborhood looked horrible.
- I would like the City to get the snow moved off the side street when the big snowfalls come, so we can get out and go to work.
- Once a month for residential bulk pickup is either not enough, or enforcement of the City ordinance must begin. Every month people put more garbage out soon after the trucks pass. We then have to look at it for the rest of the month. It seems the holidays are the worst. You have family coming from all over to see how your neighbors "decorate" for the holidays. Calling the City does nothing for the situation.
- The City is terrible when it comes to picking up bulk trash, cutting the grass on vacant lots and public streets, picking up junk cars sitting on streets, and also cutting the grass around the post offices and stores.
- If the City would keep the underpass on Pleasant Street clean, everything will be good.
- A man who doesn't live on our street buys cars and fixes and sells them in front of our house. He has had as many as three cars sitting in the snow. One car, with no wheels at all, sat for three weeks. The City cleaned the street and still didn't give him a ticket. We called the police, but they wouldn't come. I went to the local police station three times after we called, and the police officers were sitting and talking, and did nothing. We got almost no service. Also, a mobile home is parked in the street.
- Our block signed a petition in 1997 or 1999, because we wanted our trees trimmed. These trees were planted in 1978 and 1979. We have widows and senior citizens on our block and they want this done. Why should they have to keep calling to ask to have their trees trimmed? That is why they signed the petition. We feel that residents on our street are not treated right. The City needs to keep the restrooms at Belle Isle clean at all times, and also open some concession stands. Tear down vacant buildings on Wyoming Street between Curtis and Seven Mile. Also, you can't see the streetlights very well because of the trees. The City needs to be more concerned about the tree trimming.
- I called to report the concrete breaking up around a sewer, and no one as of yet has come to inspect the problem. We have been waiting over a month. I also reported concrete breaking up at the end of the alley. We also need a fence put up to close off a vacant lot.

- Hopefully, help and correction will be forthcoming, especially for lighting of the streets, cleanliness of the parks (Belle Isle), and snow removal of local residential streets, particularly where the elderly reside.
- We like where we live. Other areas are severely suffering and are not well maintained. I love Detroit. I would like to see all of the City better maintained and restored. Alleys need to be maintained. They are overgrown with weeds, and cluttered by broken tree limbs and inconsiderate citizens who dump their unwanted trash. If the City can maintain the streets, why can't it maintain the alleys to reduced trash, rats, and weeds? Alleys should be converted to easements without citizens having to petition. Trees on City property damaged by disease or destroyed by storms need to be replaced. The abandoned and boarded-up houses in the Brightmoor area need to be removed. Bulk trash pickup is supposed to be the fourth Friday of the month, but often it is not picked up until the second week of the next month. Parks are not mowed frequently enough and after the weekend there is too much trash left in the park. Noise laws need to be enforced. Dead animals (i.e., dogs and cats) hit by cars used to be removed from the streets within 24 hours, now each carcass lays in the street and decays or is pulverized by the many cars driving over it. The swing set and slides in the park need a load of dirt or wood chips to replace the soil that has been worn away. The empty buildings on Fenkell Street need to be eliminated. Just to name a few - the old bank that used to serve as a police mini station, the ice cream store, the vacant building beside the pizza place, and the vacant post office building.
- Please clean our City. You always know when you're in Detroit. I love Detroit but there is so much garbage and broken-down houses. Thank you.
- Attention, Office of the Auditor General, I am enclosing this letter in regard to our monthly pickup of rubbish, which is the second Thursday of each month. First, I would like to take off my hat and pat each of those guys and women on the back for they do a hell of a job when they pick up the rubbish, junk, etc. The streets look beautiful for a couple of days. However, some people start throwing out couches, rugs, etc., right after the monthly pickup. I think people should be ticketed for that. It's these kind of people who make the streets look bad and they don't care about their neighbors. Again, I say well done to the men and women who pick up our rubbish on a job well done. Signed, a senior citizen.
- City streets are dreadful – examples of the worst are (a) Conner from Mack to Warren, (b) Burns from Charlevoix to Goethe, and (c) Van Dyke from Gratiot to I-94. The vacant lots are full of trash – e.g., on the Northside of Charlevoix, just east of Baldwin. There has been so much crime in my neighborhood that many longtime residents are moving out. Home invasions, car theft, larceny from vehicles, etc. There are so few patrol cars out that it takes a long time to respond. Even if you see a crime happen, the perpetrator is gone by the time the police come, if they even come.
- I have seen a complacency in elimination of youth crime. Youth continue to hang out at gas stations and corners, and solicit drugs. People prostitute in broad daylight on some of our main thoroughfares. It's disgraceful! Vacant lots continue to be dumping grounds. Vacant homes continue to be eyesores, but there has been progress in this area. I pray for the uneducated children in our City. I live in an economically stable area but I am afraid to go across Six Mile Road. There are frequent gunshots and cars racing down Evergreen and some of our residential streets. The eastside is even worse. It is so sad and depressing. The only decent areas that remain are downtown and some areas on the east side and the west side of the City.

- The City needs more vacant building demolition.
- The sewers need cleaning, garbage needs picking up, and trees need cutting.
- No information about City services comes from the City. Some is received in the newspaper. The City was slow to repair my garbage can.
- I love Detroit. However, as of today, I have been looking to move out of the City. I don't like my son being around drugs. I have also been trying to get a house torn down next door to my house for the past year, as of this day I've had no luck. There are crack houses on my block that I have been complaining about, but as of this day, I haven't had any luck. I wish services in this City would improve, soon!
- I am unhappy about the streets in my neighborhood. The side streets near Winchester and Dequindre are very bad and our cars are taking a beating. I marked bad for bulk pickup because people should be ticketed when they put trash out right after or the day after bulk pickup. Also, for two years my sister has been trying to get the roots removed from the trees that pushed up the sidewalk. She is 80-years old and has fallen twice. The City came out and put black tar on the sidewalk as a temporary repair. In no other neighborhood would they put tar on the sidewalk.
- The Sixth precinct does not have enough police officers to work our area, so depending on where they are in terms of priorities, you may not get any response when police service is needed. My home has been broken into several times over the last 10 years, and most of the time the police didn't even come to my home. I have an alarm system and that has helped me, but most of the time the police never showed. That sure doesn't make me feel safe. Bulk garbage pickup rules are that you can't put trash out until the night before. However, sometimes that is not realistic. Sometimes I need help to get it out and the only time that can be done is on the weekend before. So, I'm worried that I may get ticketed. Yet there are residents that put stuff out weeks early and I never hear about them getting ticketed.
- When will the City enforce its codes that require buildings to meet certain standards? There are too many people with rental property that is the pits. Fix it up or bring it down.
- I guess I find it rather disturbing that the City of Detroit is the only City that requires neighborhood citizens to volunteer to clean up vacant lots, debris, and participate in crime prevention methods. None of the surrounding suburban areas have this problem. And yet, in most instances, we (the citizens) pay more taxes, etc. Downtown is a mess (it's rather embarrassing) and the conditions at Belle Isle have gotten ridiculous. There's always plenty of trash everywhere and the potholes in the streets result in an irritating drive.
- I answered the questions as best I could as far as a yes, a not good, or a not bad. I have lived in the City at this address for 48 years. I'm trying to stay, where others would leave to go elsewhere. I don't mind helping the City. I have one complaint and that is my street has never been resurfaced, which is sad. The street has holes and bad curbs. We are trying to keep our property looking good and I wish the City would do something about this street.

- The City needs to enforce the laws already on the books. Snow removal needs to be improved. Taxes are too high for the services we receive. The City needs better trained police officers. We have people running stop signs and red lights, and cars speeding 80 miles per hour, and no one to check them. There are no police officers around. You leave me no choice, but to leave the City. God bless Detroit, you really need it.
- If you live in the City of Detroit you're not treated as a citizen. Only if you live in the suburbs, do you get quick police protection, fire protection, snow removal on side streets, neighborhood parks, recreation centers that are clean, and so much more. Also, car insurance costs less. What happened to the City of Detroit Schools? It's sad.
- I wish the Mayor of this City could get rid of the dope in Detroit. I lost my sister because of this and I am very bitter about how easy it is to get drugs on any street corner. I think Detroit is on its way back. If we could clean up our town, so many people wouldn't leave here for the suburbs. There are too many abandoned homes for our schoolkids to get trapped in. Thank you.
- There is no excuse for the poor response of the department of recreation and the department of sanitation. These departments have employees and equipment that appear to be idle each time I encounter them.
- We need better snow removal for neighborhood streets, especially near schools.
- The City's snow removal service is very poor, even though we live on a bus route. We have very few sidewalks. The roads under the viaducts flood constantly. It's like driving through rivers. It's the same roads that cause vehicle problems. Is the City willing to pay the resultant repair bills? Major streets with potholes also cause vehicle problems. There are stray dogs running around the neighborhood. There are vacant lots that are overgrown and not maintained. There are vacant houses that need to be torn down. They have been set on fire many times. Rodent control is needed. We have actually seen rats in the street in the evening.
- I have been reporting an abandoned building next to my back yard, but nobody has done anything about it. Due to the abandoned building, we have rats and mice around, even inside my house at one time. This building has also been used by drug addicts and teenagers. The building is close to Western International High School. I also have gone to the Third precinct to report an abandoned car in the alley but nothing has been done. This car has been there for over two years.
- Garbage pickup services are very good. Adherence to bulk trash pickup regulations are abysmal. Bulk trash pickup is excellent. However, those who put trash out several days or more prior to the pickup date are not ticketed. People who repair cars in the street are not ticketed. The alley at the rear of my home could not be used by a fire truck most weekends because it's clogged with vehicles being repaired.
- There is a gigantic pile of debris on the berm area in front of one of the houses on Steel Street, between Westfield and west Chicago Streets. This situation can be a rat harbor and a fire hazard. The pile grows daily. The DPW said that it will take two weeks to a month before they can inspect the problem. Also, there is illegal dumping in the alley behind the same residence, however, the DPW indicates that it does not inspect the alleys.